Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

	Complete If Known	
Application Number	09/943,395	
Filing Date	August 30, 2001	
First Named Inventor	Kouhei Kabuki, et al.	
Group Art Unit	2877	
Examiner Name	Layla G. Lauchman	
Attorney Docket Number	1743/192	

			U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS	
	Cita	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages
Initials *	Examiner Cite	Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		or Relevant Figures Appear
II.		US-4,171,913	10/23/1979	Wildy et al.	
		US-4,180,327	12/25/1979	Maeda et al.	
Ws.		US-4,545,681	10/8/1985	Watanabe	
W-		US- 4,609,289	9/2/1986	Ritzl	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-		·	
		US-			
	1	US-			

		FOREIGN	PATENT DO	CUMENTS			
	T	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,	т⁰ .	
	Cite No. ¹	Country Code ³ – Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁶ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
XI.		JP A 3-120428	5/22/1991			X (abstract)	
		JP A 60-70319	4/22/1985				
- 	-						
					<u> </u>		

Examiner Signature Date Considered 3/3-0/05

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will va y depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional) . ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.
³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known Application Number 09/943,395 Filing Date August 30, 2001 Kouhei Kabuki, et al. First Named Inventor Group Art Unit 2877 **Examiner Name** Layla G. Lauchman Attorney Docket Number 1743/192

(use as many sheets as necessary)

of

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of T² Cite Examiner the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue No.1 Initials number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. European Patent Office Communication dated February 26, 2004 with attached European search report (2 pages)

Examiner Signature	La	Date Considered	3/30/05

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

≅Sheet

¹ Unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paper of Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid CMB control number.

Complete if Known

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

	Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/943,395	
Filing Date	August 30, 2001	
First Named Inventor	Kouhei Kabuki, et al.	
Group Art Unit	2877	
Examiner Name	Layla G. Lauchman	
Attorney Docket Number	1743/192	

		-	U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS		
F	Cito	Cite Document Number Publication Date Number - Kind Code ² (If known) Publication Date		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
Examiner Initials *	No.1				or Relevant Figures Appear	
		US-				
		US-				
		US-			·	
	1	US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
	Ĭ	ÚS-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
	į .	US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

		FOREIGN	PATENT DO	CUMENTS	•	
Examiner (T	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines,	
	Cite No.1	Country Code ³ – Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Тө .
57		JP A 59-43374	3-10-1984	Sadao		X (abstract)
0						
				<u> </u>		
				<u> </u>		
					1	

						· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Examiner Signature	Jak	2	Seem	Date Considered	3/30/	03	

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will va y depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.
³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.